THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Punjab State Electronic Development and Production Corporation Ltd. had submitted an application dated 20th August, 1987 for industrial licence and approval of foreign collaboration for the manufacture of optical fibre communication systems in technical and financial collaboration with STC of UK. The application was rejected in December 1987 on the ground that adequate capacity had already been approved for the manufacture of this item. The company's representation against this decision has also been considered and rejected by the Government.

...(*Interruption*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I may say, with all humility, that your behaviour is not at all according to parliamentary practice. Please go back to your seats. When the discussion comes, kindly discuss it. ...(*Interruptions*) ...Kindly hear me. You have made your protest. Now please go back to your seats and let the House go on according to the regular parliamentary practice. Let it go on. I have absolutely no right to overrule the opinion of the House. Please go back to your seats. If you do not go ...(*Interruptions*)... Question No. 166.

Safety Audit in Oil Installations

*166. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:†
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a safety audit has been ordered in oil installations in the country particularly in on-shore and off-shore drilling rigs against the backdrop of July, 7 oil disaster in England;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the objectives of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) Safety audits are regularly conducted on onshore/offshore rigs/installations. These have, however further been re-inforced in view of the oil fire disaster in the North Sea, by chalking out a special action plan for Bombay Offshore. As a result, 17 Safety Check Teams consisting of General Managers/Dy. General managers and eight Task Force Teams of senior officers have been deployed to carry out a time bound safety audit/inspection programme and recommend such further safety measures as may be necessary.

For onshore rigs/installations, a special safety audit/inspection has been arranged by ONGC. OIL have also been instructed to undertake similar steps.

(c) The objectives include:

To correct any short-comings in safety measures.

To emphasise safety awareness.

To review the training in safety measures of newly recruited employees.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 167 ... (*Interruptions*)... Q. No. 168... (*Interruptions*) ... Q. No. 169 ... (*Inter-*

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Veena Verma.